

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraph on page 3, line 23 to page 4, line 3 and replace it with the following paragraph:

(8) the method according to the above (7), wherein the LH-RH derivative is a compound represented by the general formula:

5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (**SEQ ID NO: 1**)

wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer(tBu), D2Nal or DHis(ImBzl) and Z represents NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> or Gly-NH<sub>2</sub>;

Please delete the paragraph on page 15, line 25 to page 16, line 10 and replace it with the following paragraph:

The LH-RH derivative may be an LH-RH agonist or LH-RH antagonist. Examples of an LH-RH antagonist include peptides represented by the general formula [I]:

X-D2Nal-D4ClPhe-D3Pal-Ser-A-B-Leu-C-Pro-DAlaNH<sub>2</sub> (**SEQ ID NO: 2**)

wherein X represents N(4H<sub>2</sub>-furoyl)Gly or NAc, A represents a residue selected from NMeTyr, Tyr, Aph(Atz) and NMeAph(Atz), B represents a residue selected from DLys(Nic), DCit, DLys(AzaglyNic), DLys(AzaglyFur), DhArg(Et<sub>2</sub>), DAph(Atz) and DhCl, and C represents Lys(Nisp), Arg or hArg(Et<sub>2</sub>); abarelix, degarelix, antarelix, iturelix, ornitide, cetorelix, or ganirelix, or a salt thereof.

Please delete the paragraphs on page 17, line 3 to page 19, line 13 and replace them with the following paragraphs:

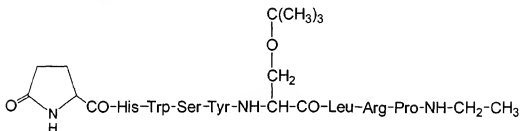
Examples of an LH-RH agonist include physiologically active peptides represented by the general formula [II]:

5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (**SEQ ID NO: 1**)

wherein Y represents a residue selected from DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer(tBu), D2Nal and DHis(ImBzl) and Z represents  $\text{NH-C}_2\text{H}_5$  or  $\text{Gly-NH}_2$ , and so on. Particularly preferred is a peptide wherein Y is DLeu and Z is  $\text{NH-C}_2\text{H}_5$  (that is, peptide A represented by the formula: 5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-DLeu-Leu-Arg-Pro- $\text{NH-C}_2\text{H}_5$  (**SEQ ID NO: 3**)) or a salt, in particular acetate thereof (leuporelin acetate).

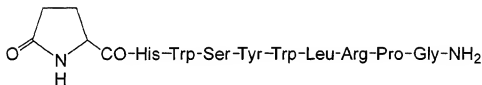
Preferred specific examples of an LH-RH agonist other than leuporelin mentioned above include:

(1) Buserelin (**SEQ ID NO: 4**)



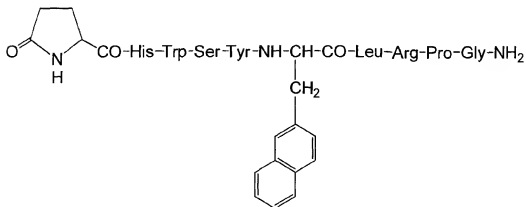
(U.S. Patent No. 4,024,248, German Patent No. 2438352, JP-A 51-41359);

(2) Triptorelin (**SEQ ID NO: 5**)



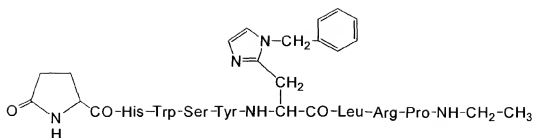
(U.S. Patent No. 4010125, JP-A 52-31073);

(3) Nafarelin (**SEQ ID NO: 6**)

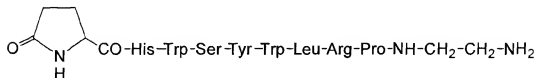


(U.S. Patent No. 4234571, JP-A 55-164663, JP-A 63-264498, JP-A 64-25794);

(4) Histrelin (**SEQ ID NO: 7**)

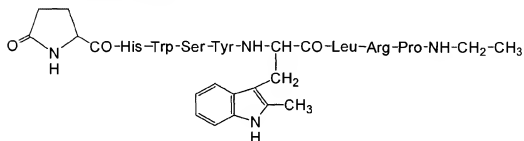


(5) Deslorelin (SEQ ID NO: 8)



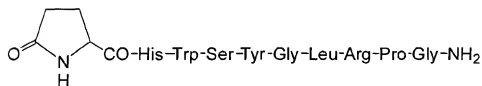
(U.S. Patent Nos. 4569967 and 4218439);

(6) Meterelin (SEQ ID NO: 9)



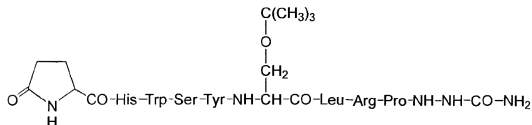
(WO 91/18016);

(7) Gonadorelin (SEQ ID NO: 10)



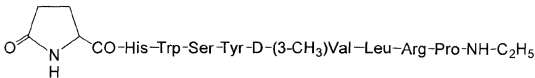
(German Patent No. 2213737);

(8) Goserelin (SEQ ID NO: 11)



(U.S. Patent No. 4100274, JP-A 52-136172);

(9) Lecirelin (SEQ ID NO: 12)



(Belgium Patent No. 897455, JP-A 59-59654); and salts thereof.

Please delete the paragraph on page 50, line 22 to page 51, line 4 and replace it with the following paragraph:

When the physiologically active substance is a compound represented by the general formula:

5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (SEQ ID NO: 1)

wherein each abbreviation represents the same meaning as described above, an acid in a molar amount of about 1.5 to about 5 times that of this physiologically active substance is preferably used. The acid is preferably an organic acid, particularly acetic acid.

Please delete the paragraph on page 61, line 12 to page 62, line 13 and replace it with the following paragraph:

The LH-RH agonist or antagonist [preferably a peptide represented by the formula: 5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-DLeu-Leu-Arg-Pro-NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 3) or a salt thereof (hereinafter, also simply referred to as "leuporelin or a salt thereof")], more preferably leuporelin acetate can be administered orally in the form of a tablet optionally coated with sugar, a capsule, elixir or a sustained-release preparation, or parenterally in the form of an injection such as an aseptic solution or suspension in water or a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid other than water, or a sustained-release preparation (particularly, a sustained-release microcapsule), an implant (e.g., an implant shaped using a biodegradable polymer as a base material, or an implant prepared by filling an active ingredient into a tube made of a biocompatible metal such as titanium so as to release the active ingredient at a constant rate), an injection prepared by dissolving or dispersing a biodegradable polymer and a drug in an organic solvent acceptable to a living body, or a nasal preparation such as a solution or suspension. It is preferably administered in the form of a sustained-release preparation,

particularly preferably in the form of a sustained-release injection. Further, in the case where the sustained-release preparation is a sustained-release microcapsule, the sustained-release microcapsule is preferably a long-term sustained-release microcapsule capable of releasing the LH-RH agonist or antagonist over about 2 months or more.